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Reply dated 30 January 2007
Responsive to Office Action mailed on 31 October 2006

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims supersedes the previous listing of claims.

1 through 18 (Cancelled)

19. (Currently Amended) A changing aid comprising a mat and at least one effect generating mechanism joined to the mat, the effect generating mechanism being adapted to transform at least a portion of an article adapted to be worn externally on a body of a wearer from a first condition to at least one second condition by changing a size, a thickness, an absorbency, a breathability, a flexibility, a rigidity, an elasticity, or a tackiness of the portion of the article or by making a connection between the portion of the article and another portion of the article or by activating or deactivating an adhesive during an application of the article onto the body or a removal of the article from the body to thereby assist in the application or the removal.
20. (Cancelled)
21. (Currently Amended) The changing aid of Claim ~~[[20]]~~ 19 wherein the ~~material property is a flexibility, a size, a tackiness, or a combination thereof~~ flexibility, the size, or the tackiness is changed.
22. (Previously Presented) The changing aid of Claim 19 wherein the effect generating mechanism is adapted to produce a thermal effect, a magnetic field, or an electric current.
23. (Currently Amended) The changing aid of Claim 19 wherein the effect generating mechanism is adapted to ~~transform the portion of the article to~~ activate or deactivate ~~[[an]]~~ the adhesive.
24. (Previously Presented) The changing aid of Claim 19 wherein the effect generating mechanism is adapted to temporarily transform the portion of the article.

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25. (Currently Amended) The changing aid of Claim 19 wherein the effect generating mechanism is adapted to ~~transform the portion of the article to connect a first portion of the article with a second portion~~ make the connection between the portions of the article.

26 through 36 (Cancelled)